

AMENDMENT
Inventor: John M. Tremaine, Sr.

PATENT
396-103

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

None.

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REMARKS

The above-reference Office Action has been carefully reviewed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, and 13 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Christofferson. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection.

Base Claims 10 and 13 clearly state that Applicant's transformer boosts the output voltage to offset a diminution of voltage caused by the presence of a dimmer switch. Christofferson does the opposite. Christofferson provides a tap switching device that, when used, diminishes the voltage output so that the lamp receives a reduced voltage, not a boosted voltage as is claimed by Applicant, *i.e.*, "to offset a diminution in voltage because of said dimmer switch being connected to said transformer". The different voltage levels provided by Christofferson are either the line voltage or reduced line voltage, not a boosted voltage to offset the losses introduced by the dimmer switch as is claimed by Applicant. The language of Christofferson cited by the Examiner does not support providing anything above a line voltage.

As to Claims 5 and 9, it is respectfully submitted that a toroidal transformer is not inherently an electronic transformer. As is well known by those having a minimal understanding of the art, a toroidal transformer is an electromagnetic device, while an electronic transformer is a solid state device. The former weighs pounds, while the latter weighs only ounces.

Claims 4 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christofferson in view of Gries. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection and incorporates here the above remarks with respect to Christofferson.

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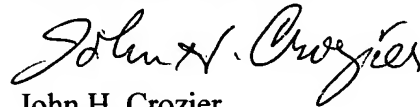
It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Gries with Christofferson fails to overcome the deficiencies of the latter.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application, Claims 3-5 and 7-15, are allowable and early action in that regard is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions as to the allowability of the claims or any suggestions with respect thereto, the undersigned would be grateful for the privilege of a telephone conference with the Examiner.

Date: June 29, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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